

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-10. (canceled)

11. (previously presented) A plug for the meatus of a lacrimal canaliculus, the plug comprising:

an elongate body having a longitudinal axis; and

an elliptical collar with a major axis, provided at one end of said elongate body, said collar substantially perpendicular to said longitudinal axis, wherein,

said elongate body has

i) a first portion attached, at said one end, to said collar, and

ii) a second portion made of two branches,

said two branches each extend beyond said first portion in a direction away from said collar,

said two branches are elastically connected to said first portion in order to be biased each branch against the other branch and to diverge elastically each branch from the other branch in a plane including the longitudinal axis and the major axis of the elliptical collar.

12. (currently amended) A plug according to claim 11, wherein said first portion is elliptical ~~has~~ with an elliptical cross-section perpendicular to the longitudinal axis and the elliptical cross section ~~with~~ having a major axis, and each of said two branches has a cross-section substantially equal to half of the elliptical cross-section of said first portion, said major axis being parallel to the major axis of the collar.

13. (previously presented) A plug according to claim 11, wherein the collar is offset relative to the longitudinal axis of the elongate body.

14. (currently amended) A plug for the meatus of a lacrimal canaliculus, the plug comprising:

an elliptical elongate body ~~having~~ extending along a longitudinal axis, ~~and~~ an elliptical cross-section perpendicular to the longitudinal axis ~~with~~ having a major axis;

a collar provided at a first end of said elongate body, said collar substantially perpendicular to said longitudinal axis; and

two branches elastically connected at a second end of said elongate body,

said two branches each extending beyond said elongate body in a direction away from said collar,

said two branches biased each branch against the other branch,

said two branches diverging elastically, each branch from the other branch, in a plane including the longitudinal axis and the major axis of the elliptical cross-section of said elongate body,

a sum of the cross-sections of said two branches is substantially equal to the elliptical cross-section of said elongate body, wherein,

i) each of said two branches, at rest, are diverging and extend obliquely relative to said longitudinal axis away from said collar,

ii) during insertion into the meatus said two branches are brought together under action of an injector appliance for locating the plug into the meatus, and

iii) subsequent to insertion into the meatus, said two branches are diverging elastically each branch from the other branch.

15. (previously presented) A plug according to claim 14, wherein the collar is elliptical in outline with a major axis parallel to the major axis of the elongate body.

16. (previously presented) A plug according to claim 15, wherein the collar is offset relative to the longitudinal axis of the elongate body.

17. (previously presented) A plug according to claim 15, wherein each of said two branches having a cross-section substantially equal to half of the elliptical cross-section of said elongate body.